TENNESSEE

Air Quality Flag Program

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

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Spring 2021

Announcements & Updates

Seeking Participant Feedback

Has your organization overcome a roadblock related to starting your Air Quality Flag Program or as you continue year after year? Let us know what you did to surmount those obstacles. We'd love to share your learning experience with others who might be facing similar circumstances.

Or if you are looking for additional support or assistance, do not hesitate to ***reach out***!

YouTube

Check out our ***new informational video*** on the Air Quality Flag Program and share it with others who may be interested in joining the Program! We look forward to helping more schools and organizations raise a flag to spread air quality awareness across the State of Tennessee.

Air Quality Awareness Week in Tennessee: May 3-7, 2021

Governor Lee has formally proclaimed Air Quality Awareness Week in Tennessee May 3-7, 2021!

We have a number of exciting things planned to raise awareness for our local air quality and how pollution impacts public health. We invite you to celebrate with us!

1) Spread the word on social media

Click here for social media templates your organization can share during the week.

2) Attend our virtual screening of *Unbreathable: The Fight for Healthy Air*

This documentary ***(view trailer)*** looks back on 50 years of the Clean Air Act, highlighting both the incredible progress made in cleaning up air pollution as well as stories of communities that are still suffering from polluted environments.

Thursday, May 6, 2021 at 12:00-1:00PM CT
Learn more and register here

3) Pledge to Stand Up for Clean Air

Click here to sign the pledge, and the American Lung Association will arm you with tips to reduce emissions, ideas to spread the word, and opportunities to advocate for solutions to reduce air pollution.

4) Check out the Air Quality Awareness Week EPA Webpage

During the week, ***this webpage*** will give an overview of the daily themes and different activities that you can do with your class to celebrate and raise awareness.

Keep a lookout for the Tennessee highway signs. All week the digital signs will recognize Air Quality Awareness Week and ask Tennesseans to reduce travel!

New! Tennessee Air Sensors Project

Air quality sensors

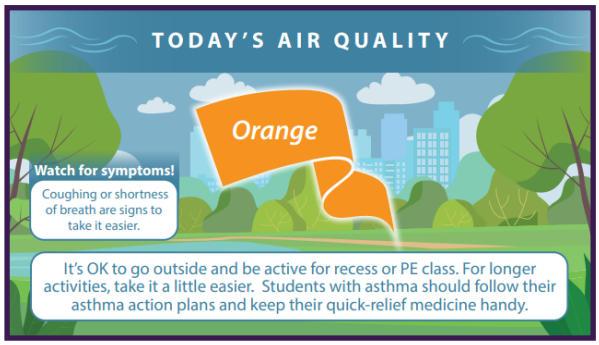
Air quality sensors are becoming popular for consumers because they are inexpensive, user-friendly, and provide real-time air pollution data. Despite the growing demand for low cost sensors, their data quality remains largely unknown. This uncertainty presents challenges when using these technologies for air quality and public heath decision-making. As such, the TN Department of Environment and Conservation (TDEC) is collaborating with Metro Nashville's Air Monitoring Program to research the performance and potential limitations of these sensors.

For this study, TDEC's Division of Air Pollution Control deployed a variety of low-cost sensors at four existing sites in Middle Tennessee equipped with regulatory monitors. TDEC APC is comparing low cost sensor data with regulatory monitoring data of well-known quality to assess sensor performance and reliability. For more information on this study, **click here**. Stay tuned for project updates as TDEC APC learns more about low-cost sensor technologies!

In the Classroom

VIRTUAL AIR FLAGS

There are now great virtual materials to post the flag color and bring more awareness to the daily AQI. Check out these **Virtual Air Flags** and incorporate them on your school's digital board!



WHY IS COCO ORANGE YOUTUBE VIDEO

Our favorite air quality book now has a YouTube video! This is a great resource to share with elementary classes and children. You can find it **here.**

COMMUNITY POSTERS

Looking for a great poster to remind your community about the importance of checking the daily air quality index? Check out the AQFP community poster.

You can order 10 posters for FREE at **www.epa.gov/nscep**. Type item number "456H20001 " in the search box.

OTHER RESOURCES

Remember, our **webpage** has a number of other resources and tools. And don't forget your toolkit!

WE ARE HERE TO SUPPORT YOU!

Questions? Contact Christine Hart at **Christine.Hart@Lung.org** or 423-661-7593

www.lung.org/TN-Air-Quality-Flags